CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION PLANNED AT RED HILL SHRINE

For the first time in recent memory, Red Hill Shrine, located near Brookneal, will stay open after dark until 7 p.m. for a special three hour Christmas celebration on Sunday, Dec. 18, 1977.

The house, owned by Patrick Henry from 1794 until his death in 1799, will be totally lit with candles, both inside and outside. The house will be decorated with the traditional colonial Christmas decorations. Guided tours will take visitors through the home for the regular admission fee of one dollar for adults and fifty cents for children under 12 years of age. This benefit is being sponsored by the Patrick Henry Memorial Foundation.

In addition to this unique event, there will be Christmas carols sung by the Patrick Henry Boys Plantation Choir. Refreshments will be served in the Patrick Henry Museum Building lobby.

The traditional Christmas decorations are being provided with the assistance of the Hat Creek Home Extension Club (Bob Whites). Holiday floral arrangements in the museum are being provided by the Red Hill Garden Club of Brookneal.

For those unable to attend this special event Sunday evening, Dec. 18, 1977, the Shrine and Museum will remain decorated through the holidays.

The Red Hill Shrine and the Patrick Henry Museum is open daily from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. It will be closed Christmas Day. Special group rates are available when arrangements are made in advance. Red Hill is located five miles east of Brookneal, off Route 40 in Charlotte County.

PHYSICAL FITNESS IS A GROWING INTEREST AMONG AMERICANS WHO SPEND ABOUT 12 BILLION DOLLARS ON EQUIPMENT THIS YEAR, YET, IT IS ESTIMATED THAT THE AVERAGE AMERICAN SPENDS ONLY ABOUT 30 MINUTES A WEEK ON EXERCISE!
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TIMES-VIRGINIAN
A LIVELY WEEKLY NEWSPAPER AT HISTORIC APPOMATTOX COURT HOUSE, VIRGINIA
VOLUME 86 - NUMBER 51 | APPOMATTOX (VA.) - TIMES-VIRGINIAN - DECEMBER 21, 1977 | SINGLE COPY PRICE 15c

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Father Darkleaf

BY CALVIN ROBINSON

This is it, folks! Christmas Week, with all the trimmings. All the planning, shopping around and figuring on what to do, what to give, is behind us. The Silver Bells are tolling and with or without snow, Christmas 1977 is here.

* * *

In Appomattox, the Christmas street lights and decorations went up, the business places set up their holiday displays, decorations and merchandise, and then this week end it was time for the HOMES. Ah yes, many a Christmas tree was set up, Christmas lighting installed, candles placed, wreaths hung, windows and doors touched by the magic wand of Santa Claus. So, I'll say that Appomattox is ready, willing and able. I just do not remember ever seeing our business place so busy, or the community better prepared for Christmas. Room for one more straw on the camel's back... Wednesday is my birthday.

I checked Sunday with the Appomattox State Police Headquarters, and as of then, Appomattox County had three highway deaths in 1977. One each in January, March, August. Appomattox County also had three highway deaths in 1976. As this is written Virginia has had 1,090 highway deaths in 1977, 106 of them in December. Please do your part to stop this lossage.

* *

Football fans are having their gorging memu. Bowl games coming up. The Redskins made a gallant bid for going to the Super Bowl, but will have to wait another year. My guess is that the big one will be at the Cotton Bowl, with Texas or Notre Dame emerging as national college champ. And basketball is well under way. Good ole Slippery Rock 51, Alliance 48.

* *

Last week I wondered if there was an Edsel car owner in Appomattox County. Indeed there is, and right around the corner from Martha Street. Mr. and Mrs. John Sam Martin have an Edsel and I gave it a look-see during the week end. They purchased it in Waynesboro, and it has 133,400 miles on it, just been inspected and going great. Frankly, I had never noticed what make of car the Martins had, only that he is a good driver and they're good neighbors.

* *

In a consolidation move, the City of Richmond is reducing its high schools from seven to three in the change. John Marshall H. S. will be merged with Maggie Walker, and henceforth known as Walker. I mention it because away back, many years ago, Appomattox H. S. played John Marshall in a football game, according to th late Dr. Harold Y. Spencer, who told me about it years ago.

* *

As regular readers know, I love to study History. I have a copy of Mrs. Rutherford Hayes' White House Cook Book (copyright 1887), but just found out by way of an article in The Washington POST that First Lady Hayes was known as "Lemonade Lucy" because she did not serve alcoholic beverages at The White House. Bravo.

* *

I am not convinced, but a changeover to the metric system of weights and measurements is supposed to get started in a year or so. Our present system has a fascinating background. Originally, an acre was the amount of land a yoke of oxen could plow in a day. A "yard" was the distance from the tip of the nose to the tip of the thumb. An inch was three barleycords laid end to end.

* * *

Ah yes, and there is something that has been on my notepad for a long time, and now is the time and place to say it. MERRY CHRISTMAS everybody, and may Santa Claus be seeing you. Thanks for reading.

RESCUE SQUAD RESPONDED TO 45 NOVEMBER CALLS

Volunteer members of the Appomattox County Rescue Squad responded to a total of 45 emergency calls during the month of November 1977.

In responding to these calls, members travelled a total of 1693 miles and spent 171 ¼ manhours.

A breakdown of the calls is as follows: diabetic, 1; falls, 4; 5 persons injured in 5 automobile accidents; oxygen-set-up for 1 person; back injury, 1; abdominal pains, 5; chest pains, 2; transports at doctor request, 2; false calls, 3; heart attacks, 3; drunks, 1; illnesses, 4; attempt suicide, 1; breathing difficulty, 4; broken bones, 1; emotional distress, 1; strokes, 1; convulsions, 1; overdose, 2; head injury, 1; and burns, 1.

In addition to the emergency calls, members spent 23½ hours on stand-by at football games.

Members of YOUR Appomattox County Rescue Squad wish for you a very Merry Christmas, a safe and healthy holiday and good wishes for the New Year!

REP. DANIEL HELD WORKSHOP HERE TUESDAY

Fifth District Congressman Dan Daniel held "workshop" sessions with constituents in Appomatox, Buckingham and Cumberland counties Tuesay, December 20.

These sessions replaced those which were cancelled on December 8 due to unforeseen legislative business in Congress.

The Congressman was at the Clerk's office in Appomattox from 9 to 11 a.m.; in the Clerk's office at Buckingham from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.; and in Cumberland Court House from 2 to 4 p.m.

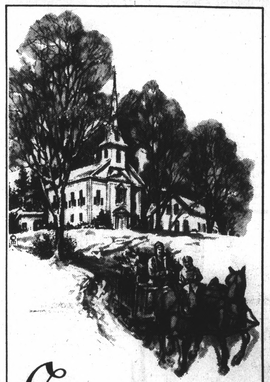
Any resident of the Fifth District who has a problem with a Federal agency or who wished to discuss legislation could see him at those times.

EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBER ANNOUNCED BY TOWN OF APPOMATTOX

The Town of Appomattox would like to announce an emergency telephone number to be used for any and all types of problems when the town office is closed. Dial 352-7414 if you need assistance from the town.

Farmers Bank Declares Dividend

The Directors of The Farmers National Bank of Appomattox has declared a semi-annual dividend of $.60 per share plus an extra dividend of $.30 per share payable December 31, 1977, to Shareholders of record on December 13, 1977.



May the joys of Christmas . . . peace, serenity and goodwill . . . bless you, your family and your loved ones. Thank you for your support.

Times - Virginian
Staff and Correspondents

"Clean Water Act" Discussed At Robert E. Lee Conservation District Meeting

Conservation problems that might be created by the proposed Randolph hydro-electric power project and getting farmers to voluntarily apply conservation were discussed at the Robert E. Lee Conservation District's December meeting.

Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Commission's director Joe Wilson met with the local conservation board. He discussed Section 208 of the federal water pollution act of 1972, often called the "Clean Water Act." The objective of this act is to have all of our nation's streams swimmable and fisherable by 1983 and drinkable by 1985, he said. Congress assigned the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to administer the pollution control program. EPA has assigned the State Water Control Board to administer the "Clean Water Act" in Virginia Progress reports will be made to EPA annually and it is essential that more conservation be carried out if we are to keep a voluntary program, he said.

Reports on conservation activities were made by Conservationist Warren Friend, Bob McCleny and Larry Holmes with the USDA Soil Conservation Service. Greater emphasis is being placed on conservation planning and application of planned practices.

Charles Fariss reported on the study of the proposed Randolph project. The District's main concern is that the plans include streambank stabilization. "We don't want another streambank erosion problem like we have below Leesville Dam," he said. The Randolph project will be discussed in more detail at the district's January meeting.

The conservation district will provide a scholarship for a local teacher to attend the Conservation Course for Teachers next summer.

The following officers were elected to direct the Robert E. Lee Soil and Water Conservation District: Chairman - Dr. Franklin F. Flint, Lynchburg; Vice-chairman - Edwin Fitzgerald, Amherst; Secretary - Cornell Goldman, Campbell; Treasurer - Dennis W. Torrence, Appomattox.

District secretary Allan Hunter who will be leaving the conservation district's board after serving nine years was given resolution of commendation. A resolution of commendation was also given to outgoing chairman Hunter Evans who has served as chairman and will continue to serve on the conservation district board.

WILLIAM A. HUNTER

Named Chief Executive Officer At Farmers National Bank

In the regular Board of Directors meeting on Tuesday night, December 13th, William A. Hunter was designated to be Chief Executive Officer of Farmers National Bank effective on the retirement of T. DeWitt Evans on June 1, 1978.

Mr. Hunter is now serving as Vice President and Cashier and has been associated with the Farmers National Bank since 1952.

A native of Charlotte County, he is a veteran of World War II, having completed 50 bombing missions as member of the 15th Air Force in European Theatre of Operations.

Hunter is a graduate of Hampden-Sydney College, class of 1951. He joined Farmers National Bank in February of 1952.

He is married to the former Frances Ann Ramsey of Charlotte County who is a teacher in Charlotte County Public Schools. They are the parents of three children, a son, Will, who is a student at the University of Virginia; a daughter, Martha, a student at Mary Baldwin College; and a daughter, Charlotte, who is a student at J. Murray Jeffries Elementary School in Charlotte County.

Elementary Schools Accredited by Southern Association of Colleges and Schools

School personnel who had leadership responsibilities in conducting the program which resulted in accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools are pictured above L. to R., Mrs. Barbara Waddell, Pamplin Elementary Principal; Mr. Daniel Davis, Appomattox Elementary Assistant Principal; Mr. Robert Williamson, Appomattox Elementary Principal; Mrs. Mary Almond, Appomattox Elementary Teacher; Mrs. Sadie Brightwell, Pamplin Elementary Teacher; Mrs. Dianne Scruggs, Appomattox Primary Teacher and Mrs. Patricia Torrence, Appomattox Primary Principal.

Mrs. Torrence and Mrs. Brightwell represented the school system at the annual meeting of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools held last week in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Appomattox Primary, Appomattox Elementary and Pamplin Elementary Schools received full accreditation status by the association. This accomplishment is the result of school improvement and self-study activities in which the schools have been involved during the past two years.

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools is a regional educational agency which accredits public and private schools in eleven southern states. Some of the purposes of the accrediting organization are 1) to support programs that are designed to bring about improvements in educational practices, 2) to discover and disseminate information bearing upon the solution of important educational problems, 3) to encourage and strengthen local responsibility for schools and education, 4) to ensure that every member school has a program of education which provides each student with an opportunity to utilize his talents and achieve his maximum potential, and 5) to encourage member schools to utilize responsible citizens in planning and promoting the overall educational program.

"Becoming accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools is an outstanding accomplishment for our schools," stated Mrs. Martin Webb, school board chairman. "This has been a joint effort of school personnel, parents and the Virginia State Department of Education," she continued. On behalf of the school board, Mrs. Webb expressed appreciation to parents, school personnel and students for assisting the schools in achieving the goal of accreditation.

CB'ers Asked To Join In Governor's Highway Crash Alert

As the traffic death toll on Virginia's highways continues to rise, the Highway Safety Division has issued an appeal to operators of CB radios through out the state to join in the Governor's Highway Crash Alert.

"There are more than 320,000 licensed CB operators in Virginia," said John T. Hanna, director of the Division, "and we hope to mobilize this important group to help make our highways safer."

Specifically, the Highway Safety Division is asking CB operators to do the following:

1. Monitor emergency Channel 9 on their mobile CB units and base units and telephone the state or local police if they hear an emergency that needs official attention. 2. Use Channel 9 to report emergencies or roadway hasards such as slippery roads, stalled vehicles, accidents, drunk drivers and other situations that may be potentially dangerous. 3. Use other popular channels to warn other CB'ers of potential hazards.

The Highway Safety Division is sending letters to each of the members of the Commonwealth of Virginia REACT Council and other organized CB radio groups urging their cooperation in the Governor's Highway Crash Alert. "We have already talked with representatives from several of these groups and they have pledged their help," Hanna said.

In another effort to reach a key CB group, the Highway Ushers Federation, which represents many of the trucking companies in Virginia, is sending letters to all members urging them to solicit

Continued on Page 4

AMERICAN FEDERAL S & L ANNOUNCES EXTENDED HOUR

American Federal Savings and Loan Association will remain open until 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 22, 1977, Friday hours will be same as usual, and they will be open on Saturday, December 24, 1977, from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. for the convenience of the citizens of the county.

MASONIC MEETING

A called meeting will be held at Monroe Masonic Lodge on December 28, 1977 at 7:30 p.m. for work in the Fellowcraft Degree. Master Masons invited to attend. Warren Drinkard, W. M.

Warren Drinkard, W.M.

SPOUT SPRING RURITANS HEARD PROGRAM ON DRINKING AND DRIVING

The Spout Spring Buritan Club, meeting December 12th at Maudes Restaurant, heard a program on Drinking and Driving.

Haywood Nuckles, club president, is shown in above with Trooper Dan Beamon, Appomattox Division of Virginia State Police, who presented the program for the evening. Trooper Beamon gave a talk on the subject of drinking and driving and showed a film in connection the theme of the program.

Inclement Weather Closing Schools

Inclement weather often results in the closing of Appomattox County Public Schools due to hazardous conditions. A decision to close schools is based on the latest available weather reports and road conditions.

When weather conditions develop during the night which result in closing schools the next day, radio and TV stations which serve the area will be notified prior to 7:00 a.m. If it becomes necessary to close schools for more than one day, the announcement will be made, if possible, over radio and TV stations in time for evening news programs.

If no announcement is made that schools will be closed, they will be open. It is advisable to listen to one of the radio or TV stations to receive information regarding the closing of schools and avoid calling the bus shop early in the morning when the telephone is needed to contact bus drivers.

Because of weather conditions or some other emergency, it may become necessary to close schools early in the day. Give your child instructions to follow in the event of early arrival at home when no one is there.

CHANGE IN SCHOOL CALENDAR

Appomattox County Schools close for Christmas Holidays, December 21 and re-open on Tuesday, January 3, 1978.

The original school division calendar included January 2 as a regular school day. However, at the December school board meeting, the calendar was changed, and schools will not be in session on Jan. 2, 1978.

NO TOWN TRASH PICK-UP MONDAY

The Town of Appomattox will not be picking up trash Monday, December 26th, as this will be the Christmas Holiday for the workers. Trash will be picked up Tuesday, December 27, 1977.

The same schedule will apply to the week of January 2, when trash will also be picked up on Tuesday due to the Monday holiday.